REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action the two claims of the application were rejected as being obvious in view of a hypothetical combination of the newly cited Kawamura patent and the previously cited Nakashima patent. By this response, however, independent Claim 34 has been amended to require that the first and second lenses have the same arrangement pitch as the first and second image bearing members. This construction, as now set forth in Claim 34, permits the achievement of an image which can be formed precisely on an image bearing member notwithstanding the cost reduction of an optical box.

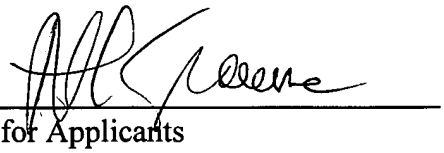
A review of the cited Kawamura patent reveals a disclosure of an optical system having a rotational deflector and a mirror, but it does not disclose in either of its embodiments a lens for directing light from the mirror onto an image bearing member. Because Kawamura fails as a rejecting reference in this regard, it also fails to suggest in any way the claimed same arrangement pitch for the lenses and the image bearing members.

As pointed out in Applicants' previous response, the Nakashima patent discloses only a single diode 1, thereby also failing to disclose Applicants' claimed pitch arrangement between the first and second lenses and the first and second image bearing members. It is noted that the newly cited but not applied Ogane patent also fails to disclose Applicants' claimed pitch arrangement relationships because it discloses only a single photoreceptor.

For these various reasons, it is believed that Claims 34 and 35 are allowable, and the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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